**7th & 8th Grade**

**Volunteer State Book Award**

**Nominee List 2011-2012**

**Young Adult (spine label stickers are yellow)**

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| **MCj04347130000[1]** | **Title** | **Author** |
|  | *A Curse Dark as Gold*  Upon the death of her father, seventeen-year-old Charlotte struggles to keep the family's woolen mill running in the face of an overwhelming mortgage and what the local villagers believe is a curse, but when a man capable of spinning straw into gold appears on the scene she must decide if his help is worth the price. | Bunce, Elizabeth C. |
|  | *The Demon King*  Relates the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa, as Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard and Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. | Chima, Cinda Williams |
|  | *The Maze Runner*  Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape. | Dasher, James |
|  | *The Great and Only Barnum*  Biography of P.T. Barnum, showman and founder of the Barnum & Bailey Circus. Readers can visit Barnum's American Museum; meet Tom Thumb, the miniature man (only 39 in. tall) and his tinier bride (32 in.); experience the thrill Barnum must have felt when, at age 60, he joined the circus; and discover Barnum's legacy. | Fleming, Candace |
|  | *The Great Wide Sea*  While still mourning the death of their mother, three brothers go with their father on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys and have a harrowing adventure at sea. | Herlong, M.H. |
|  | *Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice*  The biography of a young teenager growing up in segregated Montgomery, AL. She bravely stands up against social injustice by not giving up her seat on the bus. This was a year before Rosa Parks made her famous stand against racism. | Hoose, Phillip |
|  | *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*  In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery. | Kelly, Jacqueline |
|  | *Faith, Hope, and Ivy June*  In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery. | Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds |
|  | *I, Q: Book One: Independence Hall*  Thirteen-year-old Q and fifteen-year-old Angela expect their lives to become complicated when his mother and her father, wildly popular musicians, marry, but not that they will face spies and terrorists in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. | Smith, Roland |
|  | *When You Reach Me*  As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The $20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. | Stead, Rebecca |
|  | *Leviathan*  In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts. | Westerfeld, Scott |

**If you like the book you read,…**

* **choose another book written by the same author**
* **choose a different book from the same genre**
* **choose a book with similar topic/setting/theme**

**Keep on reading!**

**5th & 6th Grade**

**Volunteer State Book Award**

**Nominee List 2011-2012**

**Intermediate (spine label stickers are pink)**

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| **MCj04347130000[1]** | **Title** | **Author** |
|  | *Anything but Typical*  Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world. | Baskin, Nora Raleigh |
|  | *The Potato Chip Puzzles*  Winston and his friends enter an all-day puzzle contest to win fifty-thousand dollars for their school, but they must also figure out who is trying to keep them from winning. Puzzles for the reader to solve are included throughout the text. | Berlin, Eric |
|  | *Extra Credit*  As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other. | Clements, Andrew |
|  | *The Gollywhopper Games*  Twelve-year-old Gil Goodson competes against thousands of other children at extraordinary puzzles, stunts, and more in hopes of a fresh start for his family, which has been ostracized since his father was falsely accused of embezzling from Golly Toy and Game Company. | Feldman, Jody |
|  | *Wild Girl*  When twelve-year-old Lidie leaves Brazil to join her father and brother on a horse ranch in New York, she has a hard time adjusting to her changed circumstances, as does a new horse that has come to the ranch. | Giff, Patricia Reilly |
|  | *The Secret of Zoom*  Ten-year-old Christina lives a sheltered life until she discovers a secret tunnel, an evil plot to enslave orphans, and a mysterious source of energy known as zoom. | Jonell, Lynne |
|  | *Dying to Meet You: 43 Old Cemetery Road*  In this story told mostly through letters, children's book author, I. B. Grumply, gets more than he bargained for when he rents a quiet place to write for the summer. | Klise, Kate |
|  | *Swindle*  After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker. | Korman, Gordon |
|  | *11 Birthdays*  Amanda and Leo, best friends with the same birthday, had a falling out on their tenth birthday and have not spoken since, but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their eleventh birthday repeats itself again and again. | Mass, Wendy |
|  | *Franny Parker*  Through a hot, dry Oklahoma summer, twelve-year-old Franny tends wild animals brought by her neighbors, hears gossip during a weekly quilting bee, befriends a new neighbor who has some big secrets, and learns to hope. | McKinnon, Hannah Roberts |
|  | *Faith, Hope, and Ivy June*  In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery. | Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds |
|  | *Heart of a Shepherd*  Ignatius "Brother" Alderman, nearly twelve, promises to help his grandparents keep the family's Oregon ranch the same while his brothers are away and his father is deployed to Iraq, but as he comes to accept the inevitability of change, he also sees the man he is meant to be. | Parry, Rosanne |
|  | *Mudshark*  Principal Wagner confidently deals with a faculty washroom crisis, a psychic parrot, and a terrorizing gerbil, but when sixty-five erasers go missing, he enlists the help of the school's best problem solver and locator of lost items, twelve-year-old Lyle Williams, aka Mudshark. | Paulsen, Gary |
|  | *Wild River*  Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry. | Petersen, P.J. |
|  | *Captain Nobody*  When ten-year-old Newton dresses up as an unusual superhero for Halloween, he decides to keep wearing the costume after the holiday to help save townspeople and eventually his injured brother. | Pitchford, Dean |
|  | *Jake Ransom and the Skull King’s Shadow*  Connecticut middle-schooler Jake and his older sister Kady are transported by a Mayan artifact to a strange world inhabited by a mix of people from long-lost civilizations who are threatened by prehistoric creatures and an evil alchemist, the Skull King. | Rollins, James |
|  | *Tentacles*  After the mysterious disappearance of their parents, Marty and Grace go to live with their scientist uncle and accompany him on, what soon becomes, an increasingly dangerous expedition to New Zealand to track a giant squid. | Smith, Roland |
|  | *The Mysterious Benedict Society*  After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. | Stewart, Trenton Lee |
|  | *Autumn Winifred Oliver Does Things Differently*  Autumn Winifred Oliver, an eleven-year-old girl living in Cades Cove, Eastern Tennessee, during the Depression, watches her grandfather as he tries to persuade his neighbors to back the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park, but when they discover that the government representative is lying to them, Gramps becomes even more resourceful. Includes author's note about the history of the park. | Tubb, Kristin O’Donnell |

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